Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Father Richard T. Jones was born on September 16, 1914, and will celebrate his 90th birthday; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Father Jones first came to St. Francis as a part of his training as a Jesuit and taught high school boys for 3 years, and in the fall of 1963, he returned to St. Francis to take over the leadership of the Mission; and,

Whereas, It was during this time that he brought the leadership of the reservation and Todd County to St. Francis Mission to enjoy a day of fellowship that was a great success in bringing people in leadership positions to want to work together to bring a better life to the Rosebud Reservation; and,

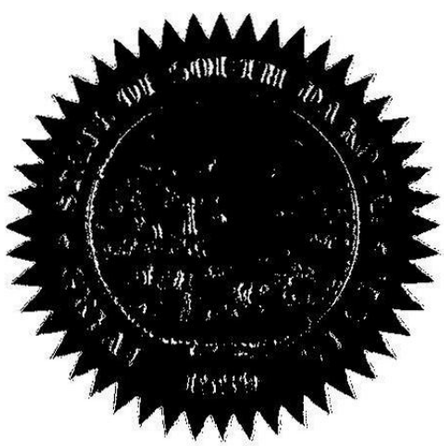
Whereas, Father Jones chose to stay on the Rosebud Reservation when his Superiorship came to an end, working tirelessly, and in the year 2000, he received the Lumen Christi Award, joining twenty-four missionaries who have enjoyed receiving this honor for exemplary missionary work in America; and,

Whereas, The community of St. Francis, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe and the parishioners of St. Charles Borromeo Parish of St. Francis, South Dakota, will celebrate his life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 16, 2004, as

FATHER RICHARD T. JONES DAY

in South Dakota, as a day of prayer and thanksgiving, and I join his parishioners, friends and relatives in wishing him a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this First Day of July in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State